No Objection to Declassification in Part 2010/08/09 : LOC-HAK-247-10-5-1

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TOHAK 58

MEMORANDUM FOR DR KISSINGER

DECEMBER 6, 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. KISSINGER

FROM: THE SITUATION ROOM

SUBJECT: MORNING NEWS SUMMARY

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE
INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

THE WASHINGTON POST

JONATHAN RANDAL REPORTS FROM PARIS THAT THE ONE-DAY DELAY IN YOUR MEETING HAS OPTIMISTS HOPING ENOUGH PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE TO REQUIRE SERIOUS REDRAFTING AND CONSULTATIONS BY BOTH DELEGATIONS. PESSIMISTS NOTE THAT THE ONLY OTHER CANCELLATION ON RECORD TOOK PLACE TWO WEEKS AGO WHEN BOTH DELEGATIONS ANNOUNCED THEY WERE SKIPPING A DAY. NORTH VIETNAMESE SOURCES SAID THE CANCELLATION WAS MADE AT AMERICAN REQUEST. RONALD ZIEGLER ANNOUNCED YESTERDAY THAT CABLE TRAFFIC BETWEEN THE WHITE HOUSE AND PARIS WAS HEAVY. THE PRESIDENT RECEIVED A NUMBER OF CABLES AND SENT INSTRUCTIONS TO YOU. (A-1)

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SECRETAR[illegible]OW HAVE A "FOUNDATION OF AN AGREEMENT" ON A HIJACKING TREATY. A PICTURE OF SECRETARY ROGERS AND SWISS AMBASSADOR TO HAVANA, SILVIO MASNATA, APPEARS ON PAGE A-1.

FORMER PRESIDENT TRUMAN HAS BEEN ADMITTED TO THE HOSPITAL IN KANSAS CITY WITH CONGESTION OF THE LUNGS. HIS CONDITION WAS DESCRIBED AS FAIR. (A-3)

TAN SON NHUT AIRBASE WAS HIT WITH ABOUT 30 ROCKETS EARLY WEDNESDAY IN THE HEAVIEST ATTACK SINCE THE 1968 OFFENSIVE. AT LEAST EIGHT PEOPLE, INCLUDING ONE AMERICAN, WERE KILLED AND 30 WOUNDED. (A-13)

A POST EDITORIAL CLAIMS THE RESULTS OF ELECTIONS IN NEW ZEALAND AND AUSTRALIA MARK A NEW STAGE FOR THEM AND AMERICAN STANDING IN THE FAR PACIFIC. IN LIGHT OF THE PRESIDENT'S CHINA TRIP AND THE WINDING DOWN OF THE VIETNAM WAR, THE LINK WITH WASHINGTON IS NO LONGER THE POLITICAL NECESSITY OR THE POLITICAL ASSET IT USED TO BE. (A-16)

VICTOR ZORZA REPORTS AN EXTENSION OF YOUR JOB TO EIGHT YEARS CARRIES WITHIN ITSELF THE SEEDS OF DISASTER, UNLESS YOU MAKE SOME DRASTIC CHANGES IN YOUR METHOD OF OPERATION. THE NEXT STAGE OF THE INTERNATIONAL POWER GAME WILL BE INFINITELY MORE COMPLEX THAT IT WAS IN THE LAST FOUR YEARS. THERE WILL BE MANY MORE PLAYERS, AND THEY WILL BE ACTING AT CROSS-PURPOSES. IN THE QUEST TO BRING A "GENERATION OF PEACE," YOU AND THE PRESIDENT MAY PUSH HISTORY MORE THAN IT IS WILLING TO BE PUSHED. WHEN THE INTERNATIONAL POWER GAME BECOMES SO MUCH MORE ELABORATE THAN DURING THE LAST FOUR YEARS, THE SHEER QUANTITY OF YOUR WORK WILL GROW SO GREATLY AS TO THREATEN A RAPID DETERIORATION IN ITS QUALITY. YOU REFUSE TO RELY ON STATE, BUT THE STAFF CANNOT PROVIDE THE DETAILED DIPLOMATIC FOOTWORK WHICH WILL NOW HAVE TO BE INTEGRATED WITH YOUR THINKING AND ACTIVITIES. UNLESS SOME FRAMEWORK IS DEVISED, THE "GENERATION OF PEACE" MAY PROVE TO BE AS ELUSIVE AS MANY THINK IT IS. (A-17)

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SYRIAN PRESIDENT ASSAD HAS CALLED UPON JORDAN TO JOIN IN THE BATTLE AGAINST ISRAEL. ACCORDING TO A BEIRUT NEWSPAPER, PALESTINIAN SOURCES PREDICT A LARGE-SCALE ISRAELI ATTACK ON SYRIA PNNTHE NDXT 24 TO 48 HOURS. THE PAPER REPORTS THAT THE USSR HAD SUPPLIED SA-6 ANTIAIRCRAFT MISSILES TO SYRIA IN A RECENT AIRLIFT. THIS HAS NOT BEEN CONFIRMED BY ANY QUALIFIED SOURCE. TAF(A-19)

AUSTRALIAN PRIME MINISTER WHITLAM HAS INSTRUCTED HIS AMBASSADOR IN PARIS TO BEGIN NEGOTIATIONS WITH CHINA'S AMBASSADOR THURSDAY. THE PRIME MINISTER HOPES TO GO TO PEKING NEXT OCTOBER, JUST BEFORE OR AFTER A VISIT TO TOKYO. (A-28)

THE NEW YORK TIMES

SECRETARY ROGERS SAID TODAY THAT HE WOULD STRESS TO THE NORTH ATLANTIC ALLIANCE THAT DESPITE THE CURRENT IMPROVEMENT IN EAST-WEST RELATIONS, THE U.S. WOULD NOT REDUCE ITS TROOP STRENGTH IN EUROPE UNTIL SOME RECIPROCAL AGREEMENT WAS REACHED WITH THE SOVIET UNION. (A-2)

AMBASSADOR BUSH, WHILE SPEAKING TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, SAID THE U.S. HAS PRIVATELY AND PUBLICLY INDICATED ITS WILLINGNESS TO PLAY A ROLE IN HELPING MIDDLE EAST COUNTRIES NEGOTIATE AN AGREEMENT. THE AMERICAN OVERTURE CAME DURING A BITTER DEBATE BETWEEN THE SOVIET UNION AND CHINA. BOTH ACCUSED THE OTHER OF HURTING THE CAUSE OF THE ARABS WHILE PRESENTING THEMSELVES AS SUPPORTERS OF THE ARABS. (A-3)

IN VIENTIANE, PRINCE SOUVANNA PHOUMA EXPRESSED HIS OPTIMISM THAT PEACE WOULD COME SOON IN INDOCHINA, BUT HE ADDED THAT HIS GOVERNMENT WILL FIGHT ON UNLESS NORTH VIETNAMESE TROOPS LEAVE LAOS. (A-18)

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NAN ROBE ING PLACE AMONG POW FAMILIES. SOME INTERVIEWS ARE NOW TAKING PLACE THROUGHOUT THE NATION TO OBTAIN REACTIONS AND FEELINGS ABOUT YOUR LATEST PEACE EFFORTS. (A-32)

TOM HAYDEN ADDS HIS VIEWS ON THE PROSPECT FOR PEACE, BASED ON HIS RECENT VISIT TO HANOI. HE INDICATES THAT THE AGREEMENT REPRESENTS MORE OF THE HANOI-NLF POSITION THAN THAT OF WASHINGTON OR SAIGON. HANOI WILL MODIFY ITS INSISTENCE ON AN IMMEDIATE COALITION GOVERNMENT IN THE SOUTH, AND AT THE SAME TIME, ALLOW THE WEAKENED SAIGON REGIME TO EXIST UNTIL AFTER U.S. MILITARY SUPPORT IS WITHDRAWN. HAYDEN CONCLUDES BY SAYING THE PRESIDENT CAN ONLY HAVE THE AGREEMENT WORK IF HE WANTS A FACE-SAVING RETREAT FROM INDOCHINA.

THE BALTIMORE SUN

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CAPTURED ENEMY DOCUMENTS INDICATE THAT VIET CONG FORCES AND GUERRILLA UNITS ARE UNDER ORDERS TO CONTINUE FIGHTING IF THE U.S. SIGNS A SEPARATE CEASE-FIRE AGREEMENT WITH HANOI AND SOUTH VIETNAM REFUSES TO GO ALONG. (A-1)

THE SOVIETS HAVE BEEN PRESSING THE CZECHS TO SETTLE THEIR DIFFERENCES WITH WEST GERMANY. THREE TIMES IN THE LAST TWO WEEKS, MOSCOW HAS CALLED FOR THE NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS BETWEEN BONN AND PRAGUE. THIS WOULD RESOLVE ANOTHER MAJOR EAST-WEST DISPUTE IN CENTRAL EUROPE. THE CZECHS ARE CALLING FOR BONN TO DECLARE THE 1938 MUNICH AGREEMENT AS INVALID. THE WEST GERMANS SEEM TO BE READY TO ADHERE TO THE DEMANDS SET FORTH BY THE CZECHS. (A-5)

PRESIDENT POMPIDOU WILL MAKE A TWO-DAY UNOFFICIAL VISIT TO MOSCOW NEXT MONTH. THE VISIT IS SCHEDULED FOR JANUARY 11-12. (A-5)

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